CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A portable tool container comprising, in combination:

a molded, generally parallelepiped tub container including a bottom side, a front side, a back side, a first lateral side, a second lateral side, and an open top;

a telescoping handle mounted on the back side intermediate the first and second lateral sides said back side including an integrally molded vertical passage on the back side with an open top side, said handle comprising a plurality of telescoping members slidably mounted in the vertical passage;

a first wheel and a second wheel, one of said wheels supporting the container adjacent one side of the handle vertical passage and the other of said wheels supporting the container adjacent the other side of the handle vertical passage, each wheel mounted on an axle attached to the container back side.

2. The container of claim 1 wherein the handle comprises first and second telescoping members, said first member comprising a cross bar for manual gripping and said second member comprising a tubular housing for the first telescoping member.

3. The container of claim 1 wherein the vertical passage has a vertical dimension and is open at the bottom end and the top end.

4. The container of claim 1 wherein the vertical passage has a vertical dimension less than the vertical dimension of the back side.

5. The container of claim 2 wherein the tubular housing includes a first projecting stop member projecting outwardly from the housing adjacent the bottom end of the housing, and a second stop member projecting outwardly from the housing vertically above the first stop member and spaced from the first stop member to define a distance of telescoping travel of the tubular housing in the passage, said passage including first and second projecting engagement tabs for engagement with the first and second stop members respectively, said first and second engagement tabs spaced a distance equal to the distance of telescoping travel.

6. The container of claim 5 wherein the first member is slidably mounted in the second member, and wherein the first member includes a biased locking arm with an engagement hook, and wherein the second member includes first and second spaced engagement surfaces, said first and second engagement surfaces spaced vertically in the direction of travel of the first member in the second member, whereby the locking arm engages one of the engagement surfaces upon full telescoping extension, and engages the other surface upon full telescoping retraction into the second member.

7. The container of claim 6 further including a housing stop member for engaging the first member upon movement of the full telescoping position to limit further telescoping movement from the housing.

8. The container of claim 6 further including a biasing cam in the housing for disengaging the biased locking arm from the housing upon movement of the second member toward the telescoping position.

9. A portable tool container comprising, in combination:

a container tub having a generally vertical side wall;

a transport wheel attached to the tub adjacent the side wall for support of the tub;

a telescoping handle attached to the side wall, said side wall including an integrally molded through passage for the handle;

said handle including first and second telescoping members, said first member comprising a housing for the second member, said first member slidably mounted in the through passage, said second member slidably mounted in the first member, said first member and said passage each including projecting stop members which limit the telescopic movement of the first member in the passage;

said second member including a biased stop member for engaging a first or a second ledge of the first member to thereby prevent telescoping movement of the second member in one direction in the housing and said second member further including a projecting stop member for engaging the housing for limiting telescopic extension of the second member from the housing.

10. The container of claim 9 wherein the biased stop member is manually releasable when the second member is in the extended position.

11. The container of claim 9 wherein the component parts are molded plastic.

12. The container of claim 9 wherein the passage and housing have a generally rectangular cross sectional profile.

13. The container of claim 9 wherein the container includes first and second wheels mounted on the wall with one wheel on each side of the passage.

14. The container of claims 1 or 9 wherein the container includes an open top and a cover for the top.

15. The container of claims 1 or 9 wherein the container includes one or more molded nesting trays.

16. The container of claims 1 and 9 including a cover for the container and a latch mechanism for retaining the cover on the container.